

August 4, 1989

Dianna M. Higdon City Clerk City Hall 3954 Old Hamner P.O. Box 428 Norco, CA 91760

> Re: Your Request for Advice Our File No. A-89-405

Dear Ms. Higdon:

This is in response to your request for a confirmation of telephone advice concerning your responsibilities under the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act"). This letter confirms that your letter dated July 3, 1989 accurately summarizes the telephone advice I provided to you on June 22, 1989.

As I stated in our telephone conversation, the Act requires that every report and statement filed pursuant to this title be a public record open for public inspection and reproduction. (Section 81008(a).) Section 81008(a) prohibits imposition of any conditions upon persons desiring to inspect or reproduce reports or statements filed under the Act, and limits the amount that may be charged for retrieval and reproduction of these records. It specifically prohibits requiring identification from persons seeking to inspect or copy records.

You stated in our telephone conversation that you have implemented a policy of asking for written requests for records in order to deal with the volume of requests to which your staff must respond. You also stated that you do not require identification or signatures with the requests. The policy as described is consistent with Section 81008 and with the Public Records Act. (Sections 6250, et seq.) Accordingly, we conclude that requiring written requests as described in your letter is reasonable and does not violate Act. However, you may wish to contact your city

Government Code Sections 81000-91015. All statutory references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated. Commission regulations appear at 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18000, et seq. All references to regulations are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations.

File No. A-89-405 Page 2

attorney in regard to other laws or regulations that might apply which are not within the jurisdiction of the Act or the Commission.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact this office at (916) 322-5901.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Donovan General Counsel

John W. Wallace Counsel, Legal Division

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## CITY of NORCO

CITY HALL 3954 OLD HAMNER . TELEPHONE (714) 735-3900 . P.O. BOX 428, NORCO, CA 91760

July 3, 1989

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LEGAL DIVISION
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Sirs:

I would like a written opinion regarding the following situation.

Due to the limited staff and the many requests for copies of records, we have a standard policy of asking that all requests be made in writing. This has proves a great time saver as it specifies the items desired.

Recently we are in the process of a Recall and are having many requests for campaign statements and statements of economic interests, for 5 years of so. We have also asked that this be in writing, no need for signature or identification, and we comply with the FPPC regulations for time frame to acquire the information and the charges for copies. Upon a phone call Mr. John Wallace clarified that was an acceptable request, but since they had not had this situation previously I might want to write to get a written statement.

Please furnish any information you can for our files.

Sincerely,

Nanna M. Higdon, CMC

City Clerk City of Norco



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July 3, 1989

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Please furnish any information you can for our files.

Sincerely,

Dianna M. Higdon, CMC

City Clerk City of Norco July 12, 1989

Dianna M. Higdon City Clerk P.O. Box 428 Norco, CA 91760

Re: Letter No. 405

Dear Ms. Higdon:

Your letter requesting advice under the Political Reform Act was received on July 6, 1989 by the Fair Political Practices Commission. If you have any questions about your advice request, you may contact John Wallace an attorney in the Legal Division, directly at (916) 322-5901.

We try to answer all advice requests promptly. Therefore, unless your request poses particularly complex legal questions, or more information is needed, you should expect a response within 21 working days if your request seeks formal written advice. If more information is needed, the person assigned to prepare a response to your request will contact you shortly to advise you as to information needed. If your request is for informal assistance, we will answer it as quickly as we can. (See Commission Regulation 18329 (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sec. 18329).)

You also should be aware that your letter and our response are public records which may be disclosed to the public upon receipt of a proper request for disclosure.

Very truly yours,

Kathryn E. Donovan General Counsel

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